

61. A process for producing a reinforced slab of stone material, comprising the steps

of:

E2 a. providing a slab of stone material having a substantially smooth rear face
free of grooves or recesses;

b. providing a first layer of non-twisted linear reinforcing elements coated
with a resin, the percentage of resin to non-twisted linear reinforcing elements in the first layer
being at most 50:50 by weight;

c. providing a second layer of non-twisted linear reinforcing elements coated
with a resin, the percentage of resin to non-twisted linear reinforcing elements in the second layer
being at most 50:50 by weight;

d. applying the first and second layers of non-twisted linear reinforcing
elements to the rear face of the slab such that the second layer is between the first layer and the
rear face of the slab; and

e. hardening the resin.

E3 65. A process for producing a reinforced slab of stone material, comprising the steps

of:

a. providing a slab of stone material having a substantially smooth rear face
free of grooves or recesses;

b. forming grooves or recesses on the rear face of the slab;

recapture?

c. providing a first reinforcing layer of non-twisted linear reinforcing
elements coated with a resin, the percentage of resin to non-twisted linear reinforcing elements in
the first layer being at most 50:50 by weight;

E3

- d. providing a second reinforcing layer of linear reinforcing elements;
 - e. applying the first and second reinforcing layers to the rear face of the slab
such that the second layer is between the first layer and the rear face of the slab and the
reinforcing elements of the second reinforcing layer are disposed in the grooves or recesses; and
 - f. hardening the resin.
-

C. *Add new claims 66-73 as follows:*

E4

- 66. The process according to claim 65, wherein the grooves or recesses form a grid.
- 67. The process according to claim 65, wherein the linear reinforcing elements of the
second reinforcing layer include glass fiber yarns.
- 68. The process according to claim 65, wherein the linear reinforcing elements of the
second reinforcing layer include rods or bars of extruded fibers of glass and resin.
- 69. The process according to claim 68, wherein each of the linear rods or bars has a
diameter of 2 to 2.5 mm.
- 70. The process according to claim 68, wherein each of the linear rods or bars
comprises 68% glass and 32% resin, the percentages being expressed by weight.
- 71. The process according to claim 67, wherein the grooves or recesses have a depth
dimension of 3 to 4 mm and the glass fiber yarns comprise 4800 TEX (19.6 g/m) glass threads.